

# Hunting and Trapping

## Emergency Order

Alaska Department  
of Fish and Game

Under the Authority of AS 16.05.060

**Emergency Order** 05-10-12

**Issued at** Nome, Alaska  
September 14, 2012

**Effective Date:** 12:01 a.m.  
September 15, 2012

**Expiration Date:** June 30, 2013

### EXPLANATION:

This emergency order extends the State of Alaska season for antlered bull moose by registration permit hunt RM841 in Unit 22(A) Central until September 20, 2012. The hunt area covered by this extension includes Unit 22(A) that portion in the Unalakleet River drainage and all drainages flowing into Norton Sound north of the Golsovia River drainage and south of the Tagoomenik and Shaktoolik River drainages. The current harvest of 5 antlered bulls is below the established harvest quota of 22 antlered bulls. An extension of the season will allow additional hunting opportunity to reach quota. The fall season will be closed by a subsequent emergency order when the harvest quota is reached.

In the event that the harvest quota of 22 antlered bulls is not reached in the fall hunt, this emergency order also announces a “to be announced” winter season for antlered bull moose by registration permit in Unit 22(A) Central during the period December 1 to December 31, 2012. The winter hunt would only be announced if the department determines that a winter hunt for the remaining portion of the quota can be administered without overharvesting the population.

### REGULATION:

Therefore, the following regulations in **5 AAC 85.045 (a) (20) HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR MOOSE** are superseded by this emergency order, and the following provisions are effective for hunting moose in a portion of Unit 22(A):

<b>Units and Bag Limits</b>	<b>Resident Open Season (Subsistence and General Hunts)</b>	<b>Nonresident Open Season</b>
(20)		
...		

Unit 22(A), that portion in the  
Unalakleet River drainage and

all drainages flowing into Norton Sound north of the Golsovia River drainage and south of the Tagoomenik and Shaktoolik River Drainages

1 antlered bull by registration permit only; or

**Sept. 1 – Sept 20**

No open season

1 antlered bull by registration permit only; during the period Dec. 1- Dec. 31, a season may be announced by emergency order

**Dec. 1 – Dec. 31  
(To be announced)**

No open season

...

All other moose hunting regulations in Unit 22 remain unchanged and are not affected by this emergency order.

Cora Campbell  
Commissioner

By delegation to:



Tony Gorn  
Area Biologist

### **JUSTIFICATION:**

Moose seasons in the central portion of Unit 22(A) were closed in 2005 because of a declining trend in the area's moose populations since 1989. A stratified moose census completed in March 2007 estimated 339 moose in the area, and beginning in 2008 the Alaska Board of Game adopted a registration moose hunt regulation with harvest quotas to prevent over harvest. A stratified moose census completed in February 2012 estimated 545 moose in the survey area, which is a 13% annual rate of increase since the 2007 population survey.

The department set a harvest quota of 22 antlered bull moose in this portion of Unit 22(A) for regulatory year 2012-2013. At the time of this announcement, the combined total harvest from state and federal hunts is 5 antlered bulls. Due to poor early season weather and local harvest needs, the season is being extended 6 days until September 20 to allow additional opportunity to reach the harvest quota of 22 antlered bulls. To protect breeding bulls from disturbance or harvest by hunters, the fall season will not be extended beyond September 20. In the event that the harvest quota of 22 antlered bulls is not reached in the fall hunt, this emergency order also announces a "to be announced" winter season for antlered bull moose by registration permit in Unit 22(A) Central during the period December 1 to December 31, 2012. The winter hunt would only be announced if the department determines that a winter

hunt for the remaining portion of the quota can be administered without overharvesting the population.

The Department uses quota-based registration permit hunts during early September to manage moose harvests where populations are low or declining in Units 22(A) Central, 22(B) Remainder, Unit 22(C), and Unit 22(D). Hunting after the middle of September is avoided to protect breeding bulls in the population for improved recruitment in the following spring calving period. In most areas, winter hunting is offered as an option if fall season harvest falls short of quota. The strategy for harvest opportunity is to let hunters know in advance that seasons close when fall quotas are reached and, if needed, unmet fall quotas are transferred to winter seasons as long as overharvest does not occur.

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Unit 22: Nome

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Unit 22

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